IN THE CLAIMS

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (currently amended) A working chair with adjustable backrest support pre-set tension, comprising:

a seat ~~part~~ comprising a seat support and a seat plate supported above the seat support, the seat support and seat plate each having a forward edge;

a first pivot at the forward edge of the seat support and a second pivot at the forward edge of the seat plate;

a backrest support having an end part pivotally connected to the seat support ~~part~~;

an energy storing device for biasing the backrest support against the back of a seated user;

a manually operable adjustment mechanism for adjusting a pre-set tension of the energy storing device;

a guide bar pivotally mounted between the first and second pivots ~~at the forward edge of the seat part and having a free, swiveling end close to the seat edge~~;

the energy storing device having a front end and a rear end, the front end of the energy storing device being positioned on the guide bar and rotatably mounted on the ~~free swiveling end of the guide bar~~ first pivot and the rear end of the energy storing device adjustably engaging the end part of the backrest support at a contact point; ~~and~~

the contact point between the rear end of the energy storing device and the end part of the backrest support being adjustable;

the adjustment mechanism comprising an interlocking element positioned

on the end part of the backrest support, the interlocking element being adapted to be forced into engagement with the energy storing device.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The chair as claimed in ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the interlocking element comprises a toothed rack having a plurality of catching recesses facing the energy storing device, the energy storing device comprising a spring and a spring guide extending through the spring having a front end and a rear end, the adjustment mechanism further comprising a tooth on the rear end of the spring guide for engagement in a selected catching recess of the toothed rack.

4. (original) The chair as claimed in claim 1, wherein the contact point of the energy storing device on the end part of the backrest support is manually adjustable.

5. (original) The chair as claimed in claim 1, wherein the energy storing device comprises a spring.

6. (original) The chair as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adjustment mechanism comprises an externally accessible operating lever rotatably mounted on the end part of the backrest support adjacent the rear end of the energy storing device, a bracket rigidly connected to the operating lever and having a slot, the energy storing device having a spring guide which is non-rigidly guided in said slot.

7. (currently amended) The chair as claimed in ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the interlocking element is self-locking.

8. (original) The chair as claimed in claim 1, wherein the energy storing device comprises a spring guide and a spring mounted on the spring guide, the spring guide being adjustable in length as a result of pivoting movement of the ~~free end of the~~ guide bar, whereby the spring is additionally prestressed by said adjustment of said spring guide.

9. (original) The chair as claimed in claim 1, wherein the engagement of the energy storing device with the end part of the backrest support is pre-positioned.

10. (original) The chair as claimed in claim 3, further comprising an index pin on the rear end of the energy storing device, the adjustment mechanism having an indexing track into which said index pin engages, the engagement between said index pin and track bringing the tooth of the spring guide opposite a catching recess of the toothed rack.

11. (original) The chair as claimed in claim 1, wherein the engagement between the rear end of the energy storing device and the end part of the backrest support is stepless.